

Today's Meeting

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Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2009 9:25 AM

To: Gwendolyn Huddleston; Jeanette Redding

Cc: Marlene Dean

Gwen and Jenny,

I am sick...the head cold that I have carried around the last three days has flared up, and now I am feverish. I am disappointed because I will not make the meeting today. I am glad to see from the agenda that will have one more meeting in May.

Although from the minutes, I am not scheduled to give a report on my progress, I wanted to do so to both of you anyway, in case anybody asks.

I have

Topics: As I mentioned to Gwen over spring break, this has been 75% completed, and 25% "brick wall". We have finished curriculum revision of Math 9, 10, and 11, but are pretty split in four or five topics for Math 14. We have had a couple of meetings to try to find a middle ground that all faculty are comfortable with, but it is tough. I am going to try one more meeting before the end of the semester, and if we can't hammer something down, then I will punt. Gwen and I have talked about some stop-gap measures if this doesn't work right now.

Textbooks: As a department, we decided for Fall 2009 to only change books for Math 9 and 10--examining how the customization process works, and ironing out any kinks in the process. I have whittled down my large stack to five author teams, and are passing those around to interested faculty. We should have a decision in a few weeks, which gives us plenty of time with a custom editor and publisher.

Testing: As faculty, we have agreed in principle to the "exit exam" idea which is currently being used by Pierce College. Each Basic Skills class (9 through 14) will have a "exit exam" (read "common final") which is mandated by the department, and from which data will be collected. While all faculty will be required to give this test, each teacher may weight it however (s)he chooses--however, if they weight it sufficiently low (say, under 20%), then they must create their own final exam as well.